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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1524  
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE  
RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE  
RUCNNSG/NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP COLLECTIVE  
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC  
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA 1462  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 6338

Thursday, 01 May 2008, 11:39

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 NEW DELHI 001194

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TAGS PREL, PGOV, KNNP, EPET, KISL, ENRG, ECON, ETRD, IR, IN

SUBJECT: MENON SAYS AHMADINEJAD PLAYED TO MASSES DURING

INDIA VISIT

Classified By: Ambassador David Mulford for Reasons 1.4 (B and D)

1. (C) Summary: Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon related to the Ambassador May 1 that Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad told the Prime

Ahmadinejad Broadly Ideological But Mild on Specifics

2. (C) Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon related to the Ambassador May 1 that he wanted to provide a briefing of the April 29 "transit stop"

India Lays Down Criteria for Pipeline

3. (C) Menon said that the discussion with the Prime Minister focused on the Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) pipeline, and Ahmadinejad made clear th

India Pushes Iran for Full Disclosure in IAEA

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4. (C) Regarding Iran's nuclear program, Menon related that Ahmadinejad reiterated his public points that Iran intended the program for peace

Ahmadinejad Performed in Delhi

5. (C) Menon puzzled about Ahmadinejad's "self-congratulatory, self-referential" style, which he found particularly odd during an exchange

Expect Senior-Level Criticism, Ambassador Warns

6. (C) The Ambassador underlined that Americans, particularly members of Congress, will view Ahmadinejad's visit as India providing a platform

Nothing Should Upset You, Menon Presses

7. (C) Menon responded that "there is nothing in this visit that should upset you." He emphasized that the Indian government had little choice

Ambassador Asks If India Is Ready for Prime Time

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8. (C) The Ambassador recounted that the U.S. government and Congress stood up for India by passing the Hyde Act because they believed that as

Comment: India and Iran Relationship Needs No U.S. Interference

9. (C) By providing Ahmadinejad with a platform to berate the U.S., the Indian government has attempted to prove that it has an independent